



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Executive Office of Health and Human Services

Department of Public Health

Office of Emergency Medical Services

56 Roland Street, Suite 100

Boston, MA 02129-1235

(617) 284-8300

Fax: (617) 284-8350

MITT ROMNEY  
GOVERNOR

KERRY HEALEY  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

RONALD PRESTON  
SECRETARY

CHRISTINE C. FERGUSON  
COMMISSIONER

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Licensed Ambulance Services

**FROM:** Louise Goyette, Director

**DATE:** July 25, 2003

**RE:** Requirement to Report Serious Incidents and Accidents

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One of the new amendments to 105 CMR 170.000, the Emergency Medical Services System regulations, establishes a requirement for ambulance services and EFR services to report to the Department serious incidents (105 CMR 170.350(B)). The new regulations were promulgated effective July 18, 2003.

Attached please find a new DPH/OEMS administrative requirement, A/R 5-600, providing further explanation for complying with the new serious incident reporting regulations. Also attached is a one-page, double-sided reporting form that ambulance and EFR services should use to report serious incidents, as well as ambulance crashes and other incidents reportable under the new 105 CMR 170.350. Please fill out only those portions applicable to the particular incident being reported.

**Any serious incident that occurred on or after July 18, 2003 is subject to these requirements.** For incidents that occurred between July 18, 2003 and August 1, 2003, the five-day reporting deadline is extended, to August 8, 2003.

Please note that this new regulation defines those incidents the Department needs to know about in order to carry out its public health and safety responsibilities with regard to the provision of EMS services. There will be many other incidents that occur that we expect the ambulance and EFR services themselves, through their medical oversight and quality assurance/quality improvement (QA/QI) systems, will monitor and redress, as appropriate.